

Polish

<https://pwsmith.github.io/multivaluation/dbcoord/>

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1 Overview

Language family:	Indo-European (Slavic)
Countries:	Poland, Germany, Czech Republic, Slovakia, Hungary, Lithuania, parts of Latvia, bordering Kresy regions of Western Ukraine and Western Belarus
Number of speakers:	45 million
Agreement features:	number, person
Attested word orders:	SV
Coordination types:	and, or

(The data were entered by a native speaker via an online survey.)

2 Patterns for number

2.1 Coordination with “and”

2.1.1 SV order

Pattern: The number on the verb is plural in all cases.

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	sg	pl
sg	pl	pl
pl	pl	pl

Examples:

- (1) Chłopiec i mężczyzna biegą.
boy.SG and man.SG run.3PL
‘The boy and the man run.’
- (2) a. Chłopcy i mężczyzna biegą.
boy.PL and man.SG run
‘The boys and the man run.’
b. Chłopiec i mężczyźni biegą.
boy.SG and man.PL run.3PL
‘The boy and the men run.’

2.2 Coordination with “or”

2.2.1 SV order

Pattern: The number on the verb is plural, unless both conjuncts are singular.

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	sg	pl
sg	sg	pl
pl	pl	pl

Examples:

- (3) Chłopiec lub/albo mężczyzna biegnie.
boy.SG or man.SG run.3SG
‘The boy or the man run.’
- (4) a. Chłopcy lub/albo mężczyzna biegą.
boy.PL or man.SG run.3PL
‘The boys or the man run.’
b. Chłopiec lub/albo mężczyźni biegą.
boy.SG or man.PL run.3PL
‘The boy or the men run.’

3 Patterns for person

3.1 Coordination with “and”

3.1.1 SV order

Pattern: Person seems to follow a hierarchy. (If there is a first person conjunct, the verb is marked for first person. (Number is resolved to plural.)

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	1	2	3
1		1pl	1pl
2	1pl		
3	1pl		

Examples:

- (5) a. Ty i ja biegniemy.
you and I run.1PL
‘You and I run.’
b. Ja i ty biegniemy.
I and you run.1PL
‘I and you run.’
- (6) a. My i oni biegniemy.
we and they run.1PL
‘We and they run.’
b. Oni i my biegniemy.
They and we run.1PL
‘They and we run.’

3.2 Coordination with “or”

3.2.1 SV order

Pattern: Person seems to follow a hierarchy. (If there is a first person conjunct, the verb is marked for first person. (Number is resolved to plural.)

1st conjunct \ 2nd conjunct	1	2	3
1		1pl	1pl
2	1pl		
3	1pl		

Examples:

- (7) a. Ty lub/albo ja biegniemy.
you or I run.1PL
‘You or I run.’
b. Ja lub/albo ty biegniemy.
I or you run.1PL
‘I or you run.’

- (8) a. My lub/albo oni biegniemy.
we or they run.1PL
'We or they run.'
- b. Oni lub/albo my biegniemy.
they or we run.1PL
'They or we run.'